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COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone) SECURITY INFORMATION REPORT NO. 154

TOPO Koethen Airfield 25X1A

ORIGIN see below PLACE OBTAINED 25X1A

25X1A OF CONTENT 25X1A

DATE OBTAINED 25 October 1951 DATE PREPARED 25 October 1951

REFERENCES 25X1A

PAGES 3 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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SOURCE

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1. At 9 a.m. on 21 September 1951, 15 MiG-15s were observed at Koethen airfield. It was raining. Seven of the planes were parked at the take-off point and the remaining eight formed the alert flight. 25X1

2. On the afternoon of 25 September, 25 MiG-15s were observed parked at the field. At 2:50 p.m., eight MiG-15s took off in rapid succession. All had red numbers. One three-digit and one two-digit number were observed. (2) Four MiG-15s took off at 3:10 p.m. Supply truck                      and motor vehicle                      were seen in Koethen. Source repeatedly observed that some of the MiG-15s were fitted with auxiliary fuel tanks. A local female resident said that she observed Russians surveying the Koethen-Baasdorf-Edderitz area. 25X1B

3. The field was observed on 27 September from its eastern edge. The weather was cloudless and visibility was about 15 km. There was flying by jet fighters at 2:30 p.m. The following flying activity was observed:

Time	Flying Activity	Aircraft
2:32 p.m.	Take-off in groups of 2	4 jet fighters
2:37 "	Landing	1 jet fighter
2:40 "	"	1 " "
3:08 "	"	1 " "
3:10 "	"	1 " "
3:14 "	"	1 " "
3:16 "	"	1 " "
3:19 "	"	1 " "
3:23 "	"	1 " "

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<u>Time</u>	<u>Flying Activity</u>	<u>Aircraft</u>
3:55 p.m.	Take-off	2 jet fighters
4:00 "	Landing	1 jet fighter
4:03 "	"	1 " "
4:10 "	Take-off in groups of 2	4 jet fighters
4:56 "	Landing	1 jet fighter
4:59 "	"	1 " "
5:01 "	"	1 " "
5:03 "	"	1 " "
5:20 "	Take-off in groups of 2	6 jet fighters
5:30 "	Landing	1 jet fighter
5:32 "	"	1 " "
5:34 "	"	1 " "
5:37 "	"	1 " "
5:40 "	"	1 " "
5:41 "	"	1 " "

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The planes which landed at the field between 5:30 and 5:41 p.m. taxied to the hangars.

4. Aircraft observed at the field at 5 p.m. included 3 jet fighters parked in front of the two eastern hangars, 5 jet fighters parked at the eastern end of the runway, 7 jet fighters and 3 single-engine planes parked at the eastern taxiway. At about 5:05 p.m., a jet fighter was refueled. It took 14 minutes for the refueling. The single-engine aircraft taxied to the hangars. All jet fighters observed flying were single-seaters.
5. A radio truck with a platform on its roof and fitted with a whip antenna was observed at the runway. Three Soviet soldiers on the roof probably maintained radio communications with the jet fighters. A loud speaker was heard from the radio truck and source repeatedly observed that a plane taxied from the dispersal area to the take-off point. There was no night flying between 8 and 11 p.m. because of ground fog.
6. A heavy AA gun emplacement with three guns of 70 or 80 mm was observed north of triangulation point 94.4 on the road junction and about 300 meters west of Koethen-Baasdorf road. (4) At 6:45 p.m. a siren sounded a short alert whereupon, after about one minute, the AA guns fired three volleys of three rounds each. About a minute later, light AA guns fired short bursts from the direction of the firing range.

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7. About 9 a.m. on 28 September, the fog disappeared and visibility was from 5 to 10 km. At 9 a.m., the hangars at Laasendorfer Strasse were being opened. Eight jet fighters were towed out from the northern hangar. At 9:30 a.m., 12 jet fighters were in front of the southern hangar while 4 additional jet planes were seen inside the hangar. At 9 a.m., four single-engine aircraft taxied to the western end of the runway, while four jet fighters were being towed there. The following flying was observed:

<u>Time</u>	<u>Flying Activity</u>	<u>Aircraft</u>
9:35 a.m.	Take-off in one group	2 jet fighters
9:36 "	"	1 jet fighter
10:16 "	"	1 single-engine plane
10:17 "	"	1 " "
10:22 "	Landing	1 jet fighter
10:25 "	"	1 " "
10:27 "	"	1 " "
10:46 "	"	1 single-engine plane
10:50 "	"	1 jet fighter
11:20 "	Take-off	1 bi plane
11:26 "	"	1 single-engine plane
11:27 "	"	1 " "

At 11:30 a.m. the observation was discontinued. Flying continued.

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